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URBAN DISTRICT
OF
KIRKBURTON

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ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health

For the Year

1947

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KIRKBURTON

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1947

BY

ERIC WARD

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

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KIRKBURTON

URBAN DISTRICT

LIST OF COUNCILLORS

for the year 1947

Chairman: G. WHITTAKER, Esq., J.P.*

Vice-Chairman: E. A. BEDFORD, Esq.*

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* W. BLACKBURN, Esq.
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* T. WALTERS, Esq.
F. S. WOOD, Esq.
R. S. WOOD, Esq.

** Chairman of the Public Health Committee.
* Member of the Public Health Committee.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health

HENRY C. PICKERING, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Resigned 31-12-47)

ERIC WARD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Appointed 1- 1-48)

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent

E. STANSFIELD, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

W. RIDING, M.S.I.A.

Divisional Health Office,
Woodville,
Scar Lane,
GOLCAR,
Nr. Huddersfield.

September, 1948.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Kirkburton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Mallinson and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my first Annual Report on the health of the Kirkburton Urban District and the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1947.

The Report is the 8th in the series since the formation of the enlarged Urban District in 1938.

For the whole of the period covered by this Report your Medical Officer of Health was Dr. Henry C. Pickering, who resigned his appointment on the 31st December, 1947, on the Council adopting the County Council Scheme of Divisional Health Administration. Under this scheme all the medical services in the area are administered together by one Medical Officer acting as Divisional Medical Officer for County Council work, and as Medical Officer of Health for the sanitary authorities within the Division. Kirkburton Urban District is placed in Division No. 20, which also includes the Urban Districts of Colne Valley, Denby Dale, Holmfirth and Meltham.

Owing to the above mentioned circumstances it will be appreciated that this Report is based largely on information supplied by Dr. Pickering and the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. E. Stansfield, to both of whom I wish to express my thanks for valuable assistance.

The various particulars of the Vital Statistics relating to the District show that the health of the community has been well maintained, and there has been no abnormal incidence of infectious or other disease. Certain of the Death Rates are somewhat higher than the average for the West Riding Urban Districts and for England & Wales, but this is due in part to the fact that some of the deaths occurring at the Storthes Hall Mental Hospital are assigned to this District, although the patients were not bona fide residents of the District.

It is perhaps somewhat early for me to comment on the sanitary conditions prevailing in the area, but I feel I must mention how surprised I am to find such a large number of privy closets still existing in an Urban District. The lack of detailed information regarding these and other housing conditions is disturbing. In my opinion the greatest need in the Health Department at the present time is adequate clerical assistance. ~~Whilst~~ the facts and conditions observed by the Sanitary Inspectors have to be recorded by the Inspectors themselves, they are prevented from spending the whole of their time on the professional and technical duties for which they have been trained. I suggest that the Council should give urgent consideration to the question of the appointment of a clerical officer to be wholly employed in the Health Department. If such an appointment were made it would enable a much needed housing survey of the District to be commenced.

In conclusion, I wish to tender my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the welcome I received from them on taking up my appointment, and to express my appreciation for the help and co-operation given me by the Clerk and other Officials of the Council.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ERIC WARD,

Medical Officer of Health

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

1. General Statistics

Area in Acres	14,577
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population (middle of 1946)	17,370
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population (middle of 1947)	17,210
Average number of patients resident in 1947 at Storthes Hall Mental Hospital	3,012
Estimate of Population (middle of 1947) excluding patients resident at Storthes Hall Mental Hospital	14,198
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1947	4,914
Rateable Value (31st March, 1948)	£72,365
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (March, 1948)	£280/-/-

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics

All the rates per 1,000 of the estimated population given below are based on the Registrar-General's estimate of population, less the average number of patients resident in 1947 at Storthes Hall Mental Hospital.

Live Births:

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	147	129	276
Illegitimate	7	7	14
Total	154	136	290

Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population 20.43

Still Births:

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	4	1	5

Rate per 1,000 of total (live and still) births 16.95

Deaths (Males 112, Females 106)	218
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	15.35
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	NIL

Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:-

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	7	4	11
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	7	4	11

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:-

All Infants per 1,000 live births	37.93
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	39.86
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	NIL

Death Rate per 1,000 population from:-

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.42
All forms of Tuberculosis	0.42
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	1.06
Cancer	2.75
Principal Zymotic Diseases (Smallpox, Enteric Fever, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough and Diphtheria)	0.14

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	NIL
Deaths from Diarrhoea (children under 2 years of age)	1
Death Rate from Diarrhoea and Enteritis of children under 2 years of age per 1,000 births	3.45

SECTION I

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

The Kirkburton Urban District was formed under the Yorkshire West Riding County Review of 1938, by the amalgamation of the former Urban Districts of Flockton, Kirkburton, Kirkheaton, Lepton, Shelley, Shepley, Thurstonland & Farnley Tyas, and Whitley Upper, these Districts now forming the 8 wards.

The District is mainly rural in appearance, and the chief sources of employment are agriculture and textiles, with some coal mining and light industry.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

After adjustment for inward and outward transferable births, a net total of 290 live births (154 male, 136 female) was registered in the District during the year, a decrease of 1 compared with the previous year.

The BIRTH RATE is 20.43 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 20.52 for the previous year.

The illegitimate live births number 14 or 4.83% of the total live births, a decrease of 12 compared with the previous year.

Stillbirths

After adjustment for transfers, 5 stillbirths were registered during the year as compared with 11 for the previous year. This figure gives a rate of 16.95 per 1,000 live and stillbirths, and 0.35 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 36.42 and 0.77 respectively for 1946.

Deaths

After correction for inward and outward transferable deaths, the net total deaths registered in and assigned to the District was 218 (112 male, 106 female), an increase of 32 on the total for the year 1946.

The DEATH RATE is 15.35 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 13.12 for the previous year.

The following were the principal causes of death in order of frequency:-

(i)	Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System	79
(ii)	Cancer	39
(iii)	Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	38
(iv)	Respiratory diseases excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis	15
(v)	Tuberculosis, all forms	6

These 5 causes accounted for 81.19% of the total deaths. Particulars of the various causes of death and the sex distribution are given in the following table:-

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	-	2
Whooping Cough	1	-	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	4	2	6
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	-	1	1
Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (M) and Uterus (F)	-	2	2
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	6	8	14
Cancer of Breast	-	4	4
Cancer of all other sites	9	10	19
Diabetes	1	1	2
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	15	23	38
Heart Diseases	40	32	72
Other diseases of the Circulatory System	5	2	7
Bronchitis	2	3	5
Pneumonia	3	4	7
Other respiratory diseases	2	1	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	-	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	-	1	1
Appendicitis	-	1	1
Other digestive diseases	2	2	4
Nephritis	2	-	2
Premature Births	1	2	3
Congenital malformations, birth injury, infant diseases	3	1	4
Suicide	1	-	1
Road Traffic Accidents	1	-	1
Other Violent Causes	3	1	4
All other causes	8	5	13
All Causes	112	106	218

Maternal Deaths and Mortality

There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis or other maternal causes.

Infant Mortality

After correction for transferable deaths, there were 11 deaths (7 male, 4 female) of infants under 1 year of age, a decrease of 2 compared with the previous year.

The INFANT MORTALITY RATE is 37.93 per 1,000 live births as compared with 44.67 for the previous year.

The death rate amongst legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births is 39.86.

There were no deaths of illegitimate children under 1 year of age.

Comparative Statistics

	Kirkburton Urban District	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (Provisional figures)
BIRTH RATE Per 1,000 estimated population	20.43	21.6	21.5	20.5
DEATH RATES: All per 1,000 estimated population.				
All Causes	15.4	12.7	12.3	12.0
Zymotic Diseases (seven principal)	0.14	0.16	0.16	**
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	0.42	0.38	0.39	0.47
Other forms of Tuberculosis	--	0.09	0.09	0.08
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis of respiratory system)	1.06	1.41	1.37	**
Cancer	2.75	1.87	1.80	1.85
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	5.56	4.23	3.98	**
INFANT MORTALITY:	38	44	45	41
DIARRHOEA: (Deaths in infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births)	3.45	5.17	5.31	5.8
MATERNAL MORTALITY:				
Puerperal Sepsis	--	0.24	0.21	0.26
Other Causes	--	0.88	1.07	0.91
Total	--	1.12	1.28	1.17

** Figures not available.

SECTION II

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Staff

In addition to the Medical Officer of Health who is a part time officer, the staff consists of a full time Senior Sanitary Inspector, an additional Sanitary Inspector, and a Junior Clerk who is shared with the other Departments of the Council.

Laboratory Facilities

All the bacteriological laboratory work required to be undertaken by the Health Department and by General Practitioners is carried out at the Wakefield Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council, whilst samples of water for chemical examination are sent to the laboratories of Messrs. Richardson & Jeffe, Public Analysts, Bradford.

Ambulance Facilities

(a) For cases of Infectious Diseases:
The ambulance of the Huddersfield Corporation is used for the removal of cases of Infectious Diseases to the Isolation Hospital of that authority.

(b) Cases of sickness and accident:
Facilities were provided by the Huddersfield & District Hospitals Contributory Scheme until the 26th September, 1947, when the service was taken over by the West Riding County Council. The Ambulance Depot is situated at Huddersfield and service is now provided free of charge.

Professional Nursing in the Home

General: Home nursing is undertaken by the District Nurses employed by the Local District Nursing Associations which are as follows:-

1. Flockton Association..... 1 Nurse
2. Kirkburton..... 1 Nurse
3. Lepton..... 1 Nurse
4. Shelley..... 1 Nurse
5. Shepley..... 1 Nurse

The outlying districts of Thurstonland and Farnley Tyas are served by nurses employed by the Honley & District Nursing Association.

Infectious Diseases: No arrangements are made for the nursing of cases of infectious diseases at home.

Midwifery: All the nurses employed by the District Nursing Associations are practising midwives.

Treatment Centres, Clinics and Hospitals

Infant Welfare Centres
Held weekly at Kirkburton and Lepton.

Ante Natal Clinics
Held monthly at Lepton.

School Clinics
Held weekly at Kirkburton and weekly at Lepton.

Tuberculosis Dispensary
Held Tuesday afternoon and Friday afternoon at 1 Peel Street, Huddersfield.

Venereal Diseases Clinics

Held at York Place, New North Road, Huddersfield, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Held at Clayton Hospital, Wakefield, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Held at the General Infirmary, Dewsbury, on Monday, Thursday and Friday.

Hospitals

(a) Infectious Diseases: Cases of Infectious Diseases, other than Smallpox, are treated at the Huddersfield Corporation Mill Hill Isolation Hospital.

The Council has an agreement with the Elland & District Joint Hospital Committee for the treatment of cases of Smallpox.

(b) General Hospitals:

Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.
White Rose County Hospital, Wakefield.

(c) Maternity: Arrangements made by the West Riding County Council for admission to the Princess Royal Maternity Home, Huddersfield, and to various County Hospitals.

SECTION III

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The principal sources of piped water are the undertakings of the Huddersfield Corporation and the Dewsbury & Heckmondwike Joint Water Board.

The Huddersfield supply serves the Kirkburton, Lepton, Shelley, Shepley, and Thurstonland & Farnley Tyas Wards, the supply being distributed by the Huddersfield Corporation except in Thurstonland where it is supplied through mains which are the property of the Urban District Council. All the water is filtered and chlorinated at the Corporation's Waterworks before distribution. Some 4,038 houses have a direct supply from the Corporation's and Urban District Council's mains.

The Dewsbury & Heckmondwike supply serves the Flockton and Whitley Upper Wards, the water being purchased in bulk and distributed by the Council. The water, after filtration and chlorination by the Water Board, is received into a covered tank and pumped to two storage reservoirs having a total capacity of 106,000 gallons. Water from these reservoirs is supplied to 658 houses.

Adequate supplies are available throughout the distribution area, except at Flockton where shortages occur, due primarily to incrustation of the mains. A scheme has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Health for the improvement of the supply to this part of the District.

During the year 3 samples of the Dewsbury & Heckmondwike public supply and 1 of the Huddersfield Corporation's supply were taken for bacteriological examination, and in each case the result was satisfactory. A chemical analysis was made of each of these public supplies, the results being satisfactory.

In addition to the above supplies, 2 samples of spring water at Charley Hill, Kirkheaton, and Station Road, Lepton, were taken in November for bacteriological examination when these supplies were being used by residents in the neighbourhood, on account of the discolouration of the Huddersfield Corporation supply. These spring supplies were found to be unsatisfactory and notices were displayed warning the public not to use the water for drinking purposes.

In addition to the houses receiving piped supplies from statutory undertakings 218 houses have supplies from private sources. Although there is no complete record of the situation of these supplies, it appears that a large proportion are on private piped supplies at Shepley and Farnley Tyas. A scheme has been proposed to replace or augment the existing private supply at Shepley.

During the year 22 samples were taken from 12 of the private water supplies. Bacteriological examination showed that 11 of the samples were unsatisfactory, 1 doubtful and 10 satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage

There are 7 Sewage Disposal Works in the District, these being situated at Flockton, Kirkburton, Kirkheaton, Lepton, Shelley and Whitley Upper (2 works). The Kirkburton Works serve Thurstonland & Farnley Tyas as well as Kirkburton. Whilst the others serve only the wards in which they are situated, the works at Kirkburton have been extended during the year and much needed improvements to the Grange Moor and Flockton Works have been approved by the Council.

Whilst the majority of the built-up areas are sewered, a large proportion of Flockton and several outlying parts of the District (e.g. Roydhouse, Gawthorpe, Houses Hill) still require sewering. No new sewers or extensions to existing sewers were constructed during 1947.

There are 813 houses in the District which are not connected to the sewer.

Rivers and Streams

There is little known pollution of water courses with sewage from industrial or domestic premises. A number of Agreements have been entered into between the Council and various industrial undertakings for treatment of trade waste at the Council's Sewage Works.

No action has been taken by the Urban Authority during 1947 under the Rivers Pollution Prevention Acts.

Closet Accommodation

The closet accommodation for many of the houses in the District is most unsatisfactory, about 30% of the closets being of the privy midden type. Exact information is not available as to the number of closets of each type in existence in the District or of the provision for individual houses, but from records available it would appear that there are approximately some 2,960 water closets serving dwelling houses and other premises, and that some 914 privy pits and 88 pail closets are emptied at the expense of the Council. It should be borne in mind that one privy pit may serve two or more closets, and that one closet may be used for more than one house. Hence, it is impossible at present to say how many households depend for sanitary conveniences on privy closets. The situation of the privy pits and pail closets emptied by the Council are shown below.

	Privies (pits)	Pails
Flockton.....	112	-
Kirkburton.....	155	9
Kirkheaton.....	165	19
Lepton and Whitley Upper.....	224	31
Shelley and Shepley.....	183	16
Thurstonland & Farnley Tyas.....	75	13
	914	88

In addition to privy middens there were 53 fixed ashpits in use at the end of the year.

Public Cleansing

The emptying of privies and pail closets and the collection of household refuse is undertaken by the Council throughout the District, partly by direct labour and partly by local contractors, the whole of the work being done under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Refuse Collection

Of the 4,914 houses in the District approximately 3,100 are provided with dustbins. A weekly collection is provided for the Kirkburton, Lepton, Whitley Upper and Flockton Wards (1,700 houses), and a fortnightly collection in Shelley, Shepley and Thustonland & Farnley Tyas.

The Council possesses two 7 cu. yd. Bantam Refuse Collectors, one of which is employed full time in the work of refuse collection, whilst the other is engaged 4½ days each fortnight. Mechanical breakdowns and sickness amongst employees have caused periodical dislocation intthe service.

Closet Emptying

Collection of privy and pail closet contents in Flockton, Shelley and part of Kirkburton is carried out with the Council's second Bantam Refuse Collector, which is employed full time on this work apart from 4½ days each fortnight which are devoted to dustbin emptying.

Kirkheaton, Shepley and the major portion of Kirkburton Ward are dealt with by a hired horse, cart and man, working with one Council employee, whilst Thurstonland & Farnley Tyas Ward is scavenged by the use of hired haulage and labour.

The Council's horse and cart with the Council's teamer and labourer are used in the Lepton and Whitley Upper Wards.

The closets in the areas dealt with by horse and cart haulage have been emptied every 6 weeks, whilst the frequency of emptying in the other areas has varied throughout the year but has generally been adequate. Some pail closets are emptied weekly and some every fortnight.

Refuse Disposal

The disposal of the whole of the domestic refuse, together with pail closet and privy contents, is by crude tipping on some 6 main and 12 subsidiary tips.

Although the tips receive as much attention as conditions permit, it is impossible to adequately control them owing to the number of sites in use and the shortage of staff. The condition of several of the tips is most unsatisfactory, and a reduction in the number of tips, together with the adoption of some form of controlled tipping, is urgently required.

Waste food is collected in communal bins, 190 of which are stationed throughout the District as follows:-

Flockton	15
Kirkburton	68
Kirkheaton	27
Lepton	37
Shelley	7
Shepley	22
Thurstonland & Farnley Tyas	6
Whitley Upper	8
	190

The bins are usually emptied weekly and delivered for processing to Messrs. J. F. Rockett & Sons, Huddersfield.

Salvage

The Senior Sanitary Inspector who is the Salvage Officer has supplied the following information regarding the Salvage Scheme.

All salvaged material (other than waste food) is delivered to the Salvage Depot, Kirkburton, where one man is engaged for half to threequarters of his time in sorting and baling paper, sorting bones, rags, etc.

The following materials were sold during the year:-

	Tons	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Mixed Paper	49	1	3	-	312	18	5
Selected Paper	9	-	-	-	63	-	-
Newsprint	7	9	3	-	89	14	2
Rags	1	5	-	15	17	18	7
Sacking	-	6	2	13	1	3	11
String	-	8	3	14	1	10	9
Bones	-	17	1	3	4	19	3
Kitchen Waste	48	3	2	-	72	5	1
Bottles and Jars		122 dozen			6	13	6
	116	12	3	17	£570	3	8

Scavenging Statistics supplied by the Senior Sanitary Inspector:-

Motor Loads of dustbin refuse collected	1,259	
Cart Loads of dustbin refuse collected	200	1,459
Motor Loads of privy refuse collected	534	
Cart Loads of privy refuse collected (Council)	1,290	
Cart Loads of privy refuse collected (Hired)	1,619	3,443

Weight of dustbin refuse collected:

1,259 Motor Loads at 1 ton 17½ cwt.....	2,398 T		Total 6,510 tons.
200 Cart Loads at - ton 13¼ cwt.....	132 T	2,530	

Weight of privy refuse collected:

534 Motor Loads at 2 tons 11 cwt.....	1,362 T	
2,909 Cart Loads at - tons 18 cwt.....	2,618 T	3,980

Total cost of collection and disposal..... £4,518

Cost per ton of refuse..... 13/11d.

Cost per 1,000 population (excluding Storthes Hall Mental Hospital)..... £320½

Shop Acts

No inspections were carried out by the Sanitary Authority during the year.

Smoke Abatement

A total of 6 smoke observations were taken during the year. In 3 cases excessive black smoke was emitted and the occupiers were notified in accordance with the provisions of Section 102 of the Public Health Act, 1936. No statutory action was taken.

Camping Sites

No licences were issued during 1947 under the provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Swimming Baths

There are no public or privately owned baths in the District.

Regulated Buildings and Offensive Trades

There are no Common Lodging Houses or Houses Let in Lodgings in the District.

There are 2 premises registered as Offensive Trades - one for glue and size making and one for tripe boiling.

Rag Flock Acts 1911 and 1928

There are no premises in the District where Rag Flock is manufactured, used or sold.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act 1919

The Council is the authority for administering the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act 1919. The Sewage Works, refuse tips and a few business premises have been dealt with during the year.

There is no H.C.N. Plant in the District. If gas is employed for disinfestation work it is necessary to engage the services of contractors who specialise in fumigation work (e.g. Yorkshire Fumigation Services Ltd.).

Eradication of Bed Bugs

During the year 3 houses were found to be infested with bed bugs. The infestation in 2 of these cases was treated by the use of liquid insecticide, and in the third case by fumigation with H.C.N. Gas.

Factories Act 1937

The submission of a separate report to the Director of Statistics of the Ministry of Labour, on Form 572, is now again in operation. The following is an extract from such report.

1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Owners Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are not to be enforced by L.As.	82	5	3	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) to which Section 7 applies.	19	-	-	-
(3) Other premises under the Act.	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	101	5	3	-

2. Cases in which Defects were Found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions
Sanitary conveniences insufficient.	1	2	-	-
Sanitary conveniences defective	1	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences not separate for sexes.	1	1	-	-
TOTAL	3	3	-	-

Schools

There are 15 schools in the District, including 1 secondary (modern) school.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Complaints received..... 101
Informal Notices served..... 171
Informal Notices complied with..... 106
Statutory Notices served under:
(a) Section 93 of the Public Health Act 1936..... 2
(b) Section 75 of the Public Health Act 1936..... 9
(c) Section 45 of the Public Health Act 1936..... 1
(d) Section 39 of the Public Health Act 1936..... 1
Summons and legal proceedings (Nuisance Order served requiring roof repairs within 6 months)..... 1

Visits made in connection with:-

Ashes accommodation..... 239
Accumulations..... 1
Closet accommodation and urinals (including conversions)..... 185
Drainage..... 169
Drain tests..... 72
Factories..... 7
Housing (general)..... 5
Housing (overcrowding)..... 184
Infectious Diseases..... 26
Interviews..... 160
Meat and Food premises..... 61
Milk and Dairies..... 158
Piggeries..... 2
Public Health (general)..... 366
Rats and Mice..... 140
Smoke observations..... 7

Samples of water	31
Samples of milk	42
Scavenging and Tipping	286
Salvage	91
Verminous and filthy premises	48
Water supplies	21
Miscellaneous (including evacuation)	323
	2,624

Summary of Sanitary Improvements carried out during the year:-

Sewers or drains relaid or repaired	9
Obstructions removed from drains	3
New sinks fixed	5
General drainage repairs (eavestroughs, fallpipes, sink wastes)	4
Additional bathrooms	1
Water closets provided to replace privies	32
Additional W.Cs. provided: (a) Houses 2; (b) Factories 3	5
Water closets repaired	4
Privies repaired	8
Privies abolished	23
Bins provided to replace ashpits	94
Bins provided for closet conversions	32
Bins renewed	19
Roofs repaired	15
Works to remove damp conditions	6
Floors repaired	9
Plaster repairs	16
Repairs to fireplaces and ovens	5
Windows renewed or repaired	3
Repairs to yards or paving	1
Washing facilities provided or renewed	9
Nuisances abated from keeping of animals	1
Piped water supplies to replace wells	1
Water pipes repaired	1
Food premises constructed, remodelled or improved	3
Improvements under Milk and Dairies Acts	1
Disinfestations	3

SECTION IV

HOUSING

Housing is the principal post war need of the District. There is a grave shortage of houses, and many of the existing houses are unfit for occupation and should be dealt with under the appropriate sections of the Housing Acts.

No routine inspection of houses was carried out during the year, but various complaints were investigated and suitable action taken. The information available in the Department regarding present housing conditions is far from complete and a house to house survey should be undertaken as soon as possible.

There are in the District some 24 houses which are subject to Demolition Orders, and 1 which is subject to a Closing Order. Of these, 12 are at present occupied, but none appear to have been licensed for re-occupation under the Defence Regulations.

Overcrowding

There is no accurate record of the extent of overcrowding in the area, but applications for council houses indicate the prevalence of many cases of overcrowding and unsatisfactory housing conditions.

Provision of New Houses

The Council's programme for the first two post war years was for the erection of 167 houses. Approval has been obtained for the erection of 38 houses and by the end of the year 11 houses had been completed by the Council. These 11 houses were all erected during 1947, during which year there were also 27 houses erected by private enterprise.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

Practically all the milk supplied in the District is produced within the area and distributed mainly by the producers. A quantity of milk is sold wholesale for distribution in neighbouring towns. None of the milk sold in the District is Pasteurised or Heat-treated.

Particulars of registered premises and dairymen are as follows:-

Number of farms registered for milk production		125
Number actually producing at 31st December, 1947		125
Approximate number of cowsheds		242
Approximate number of dairy cows in the District		1,700
Number of farms producing Designated Milk:	(a) Tuberculin Tested	8
	(b) Accredited	12
Number producing Non-Designated Milk		105
Number of dairymen registered as:	(a) Wholesalers	28
	(b) Retailers	77
	(c) Wholesalers and Retailers	20

Inspections of cowsheds and dairies have continued throughout the year. Whilst some premises are maintained in a satisfactory condition others leave much to be desired. Provision of proper milk rooms and means of sterilising utensils by steam are still needed in a number of cases.

During the year 41 samples of non-designated milk were submitted for examination for cleanliness by the Methylene Blue Test, 22 of which did not reach the desired standard. Biological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli were made of 16 samples, negative results being obtained in each case. The number of samples taken during the year is very inadequate, routine quarterly sampling of non-designated producers being desirable. This would entail the collection of some 500 samples as against 41 in 1947. The number of biological tests should also be greatly increased but this is impossible until a more plentiful supply of guinea pigs becomes available.

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1939-1946

The following licences were granted during the year:-

(a)	By the Kirkburton Urban District Council		NIL
(b)	By the West Riding County Council: (Producers' licences)	(1) Tuberculin Tested	8
		(2) Accredited	12

Included in the above are 4 new "Tuberculin Tested" licences, 2 of which were formerly "Accredited" licences.

Meat

No regular slaughtering of animals has been carried out at any of the slaughterhouses in the District, all of which have remained closed by virtue of the Livestock (Restriction of Slaughtering) Order 1940.

All meat for sale in the District is derived from the Government controlled slaughterhouse and depot at Huddersfield, where inspection is carried out.

Of the private slaughterhouses licensed in 1940 under Section 57 of the Food & Drugs Act 1938, 9 were licensed for the year 1947.

A considerable number of pigs were slaughtered for the producers' own consumption under Ministry of Food licences, either in licensed slaughterhouses or at the producers' own premises. As far as practicable all carcases were inspected, the total number for the year being 64. One pig was found to be affected with localised Tuberculosis and the affected part was surrendered.

There are 17 butchers' shops in the District, in addition to which there are 2 retailers who have no shop premises.

No premises are registered under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act 1938 for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pickled or preserved food.

Slaughter of Animals Act 1933

Licences in operation under the provisions of the Act numbered 18, 12 of which expired during the year and were renewed. New licences issued numbered 5, and no licences were revoked during the year.

Ice Cream

At the end of 1947 there were 2 premises registered for the manufacture and sale of ice cream, and 6 premises registered for the sale only. All these premises, except 1 registered for sale only, were registered during the year.

For the manufacturing premises, a new brick structure was erected in one case; in the other case improvements were carried out.

No samples were taken during the year.

Bread

There are 8 bakehouses in the District, none of them underground.

Other Foods

At retail shops the following other foods were found to be unfit for sale for human consumption, and were condemned:-

Various tinned foods..... 15 lbs.

Jam..... 2 lbs.

Food & Drugs Act 1933

The West Riding County Council is the authority responsible for the Food Adulteration Section of the Act. The following particulars of samples taken during the year have been supplied by the Chief Inspector of Weights & Measures:-

		Prosecutions		Cautions	
Milk	Dry	Milk	Dry	Milk	Dry
69	14	-	-	2	1

SECTION VI

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

During the year there was a minor outbreak of Paratyphoid Fever at the Storthes Hall Mental Hospital. Cases of Whooping Cough and Measles were more numerous than in the previous year.

Smallpox

There were no cases of Smallpox notified during the year.

Diphtheria

No cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year.

Supplies of Anti-Toxin were obtainable during the year by medical practitioners for the treatment of suspected cases and contacts, on application to the Medical Officer of Health.

The Immunisation Campaign continued during the year. General practitioners and officers of the County Health Department carried out these inoculations. From records available 15% of children aged from 0 - 5 years, and 29.4% of children aged from 5 - 14 years were immunised against this disease. These alarmingly low figures are presumably not correct on account of the incomplete records that are available. The supposition is that 50% - 60% of the children are protected by immunisation.

Scarlet Fever

During the year 4 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, as compared with 10 in the previous year. Of these cases, 2 occurred in Shelley and 2 in Kirkburton. A further 4 cases of the disease were admitted to Mill Hill Isolation Hospital, but were not notified as Scarlet Fever. No deaths were registered as due to this disease.

Pneumonia

There were 8 cases of Pneumonia notified during the year, an increase of 4 over the previous year. Deaths registered during the year as due to all forms of Pneumonia totalled 7. The distribution of the cases is shown in the table given below.

Ward	Jan.	Feb.	Mch.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Flockton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Kirkburton	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Kirkheaton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lepton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shelley	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3
Shepley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Thurstonland & Farnley Tyas	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Whitley Upper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	8

Whooping Cough

During the year, 116 cases of Whooping Cough were notified. This number was greatly in excess of the previous year, when the notifications numbered 34. There was 1 death registered as due to this disease. One case, and this a non-notified one, was admitted to hospital. The distribution of the cases is given in the following table.

Ward	Jan.	Feb.	Mch.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Flockton	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	5
Kirkburton	11	12	13	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	17	25	83
Kirkheaton	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	2	-	8
Lepton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shelley	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Shepley	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	4
Thurstonland & Farnley Tyas	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Whitley Upper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	19	21	13	3	5	3	-	1	2	5	19	25	116

Measles

Cases of Measles notified during the year numbered 53. The corresponding figure for the previous year was 11. The wards with the highest incidence were Shelley with 20 cases and Kirkheaton with 12 cases. The distribution of the cases is shown in the table given below.

Ward	Jan.	Feb.	Mch.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Flockton	-	-	-	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5
Kirkburton	1	2	-	-	-	5	-	2	1	-	-	-	11
Kirkheaton	1	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Lepton	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
Shelley	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Shepley	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	10	-	2	-	-	20
Thurstonland & Farnley Tyas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Whitley Upper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	4	11	4	2	2	5	10	12	1	2	-	-	53

Puerperal Pyrexia

During the year 1 case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified. No cases were reported during the previous year.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis

There were 2 cases of this disease notified during the year. No cases were reported during the previous year. Both cases occurred in the Shepley Ward, one being a male aged 10 months and the other a female aged 8 years. Both were admitted to the Royal Infirmary, Huddersfield. A further case, which ended fatally, was also admitted to hospital, but no notification was received for this case.

Enteric Fever and Dysentry

A minor outbreak of Paratyphoid Fever occurred at the Storthes Hall Mental Hospital, involving 14 cases (2 male, 12 female), 7 cases being notified during November and 7 cases during December. The origin of the outbreak was difficult to trace, and it is presumed that an intermittent carrier was responsible. All the necessary advice regarding the spread of the infection was given and workmen carrying out tasks on the sewage from the hospital were advised to take every precaution. Investigations are still proceeding with a view to ascertaining the condition of the sewage effluent from the treatment works. The assistance of the Director of the Public Health Laboratory, Wakefield, and the Central Enteric Reference Laboratory & Bureau, London, was invoked, and the work of isolating and typing the organisms still continues.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever

During the year there were 3 cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever, as compared with 1 for the previous year. Of these cases 2 proved fatal. The 3 cases notified occurred in Kirkburton, Kirkheaton and Lepton.

Cancer

The number of deaths attributable to Cancer during the year numbered 39 (15 male, 24 female) as compared with 24 for the previous year, an increase of 15. The Cancer death rate for the year is 2.75 per 1,000 of the estimated population compared with a rate of 1.69 for the previous year. The corresponding rates for the Administrative County and the Urban Districts are 1.80 and 1.87 respectively.

Tuberculosis

A total of 15 new cases of Tuberculosis were added to the Notification Register during the year, as compared with 10 during the previous year.

A total of 6 deaths (4 male, 2 female) from Pulmonary Tuberculosis were recorded during the year. No deaths were recorded as due to other forms of Tuberculosis, and deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis therefore numbered 6, as compared with 4 in the previous year.

The following tables give details of the number of cases on the Notification Register, together with particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis for the year 1947:-

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Number of cases notified first time during the year:	5	8	1	1
Number of cases on Register at the end of the year:	44	41	17	21

New Cases

Age	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
17	-	1	-	-
19	-	1	-	-
27	-	1	-	-
32	1	1	-	-
36	1	-	-	-
37	-	1	-	-
38	-	1	-	-
48	1	-	-	-
52	-	-	-	1
57	-	1	-	-
58	-	1	-	-
59	1	-	-	-
63	1	-	-	-
66	-	-	1	-
Total:	5	8	1	1

TABLE SHOWING CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

Disease	Total number of cases Notified	Number of cases in which Diagnosis Confirmed	Number of cases § Admitted to Hospital	Deaths	Age distribution of confirmed cases.																									
					0- 1		1- 2		2- 3		3- 4		4- 5		5-10		10-15		15-20		20-35		35-45		45-65		Over 65		Un-known	
					M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Whooping Cough:	116	116	1*	1	3	4	6	11	14	5	7	9	10	12	13	19	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Measles:	53	53	-	-	2	1	9	5	2	3	6	8	3	5	3	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Paratyphoid Fever:	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	2	1	7	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia:	8	8	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever:	4	4	8ø	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever:	3	3	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	2	2	1#	1*	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia:	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

§ Unless otherwise stated cases were admitted to Mill Hill Isolation Hospital, Huddersfield.

* Case not notified.

ø Of these cases 4 were not notified.

\# Admitted to Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.

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